

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LILONG 01115 140650Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

DODE-00 /030 W

-----047358 140652Z /21

R 140619Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1075

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LILONGWE 1115

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MI

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON MALAWI'S NEW CABINET

REF: A. LILONGWE 1073 B. LILONGWE 1080

1. ONLY ONE DAY AFTER DISSOLVING HIS OLD CABINET (REFTEL A), MALAWI'S LIFE PRESIDENT DR. H. KAMUZU BANDA ANNOUNCED A NEW ONE OF JULY 8 (REFTEL B). THREE NEW MINISTERS WERE NAMED. AS MINISTER EDUCATION, WINFORMD A.H. LWEYA REPLACED RODWELL MUNYENYEMBE. SEBASTIAN H.M.C. KWENDA BECAME MINISTER HEALTH OUSTING A. CHATSIKA PHIRI. ALSO, B. KAPICHIRA BANDA LOST HIS POSITION AS MINISTER LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN FAVOR OF THADEUS THOMAS PHAIYA ALTHOUGH KAPICHIRA BANDA RETAINED THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE.

2. THE NEW MINISTERS OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH, LWEYA AND KWENDA, HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN OBSCURE MEMBERS OF THE MALAWIAN PARLIAMENT. PHAIYA, THE NEW MAN AT LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HAD SERVED AS THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LILONG 01115 140650Z

3. COMMENT: THE CABINET DISSOLUTION EXERCISE APPARENTLY WAS DONE WITH ONE AIM: TO GET RID OF FORMER MALAWI CONGRESS PARTY SEC.GEN. AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION, RODWELL MUNYENYEMBE, WITHOUT HAVING IT LOOK AS THOUGH HE WERE BEING SINGLED OUT FOR DISMISSAL. A WELL-INFORMED MALAWIAN SOURCE TOLD US THIS PLOY WAS USED BECAUSE OF LIFE

PRESIDENT BANDA'S REALIZATION THAT MUNYENYEMBE IS A
HIGHLY INTELLIGENT MAN WIDELY RESPECTED FOR HIS ABILITY
AND HONESTY. ALSO, THAT HIS DOWNFALL CAN BE ATTRIBUTED
TO HIS UNPOPULARITY WITH SEVERAL OF BANDA'S CLOSE
SUPPORTERS, NAMELY JOHN TEMBO, GOVERNOR OF THE RESERVE
BANK, GWANDA CHAKUAMBA PHIRI, MINISTER OF YOUTH AND
CULTURE, AND WADSON DELEZA, MINISTER OF LABOR (ALL
SOUTHERNERS -- MUNYENYEMBE IS FROM EXTREME NORTH). THE
OTHER MINISTER SACKED, CHATSIKA PHIRI, WAS OBVIOUSLY
IMCOMPETENT. IT IS INTERESTING THAT BANDA FELT IT
POLITICALLY EXPEDIENT TO GO THROUGH THE CHARADE OF A
COMPLETE CABINET DISMISSAL TO CAMOUFLAGE HIS OUSTER OF
MUNYENYEMBE. STEVENSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, REORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LILONG01115
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770250-0673
Format: TEL
From: LILONGWE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770758/aaaabycm.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f822d76b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LILONGWE 1073
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1863811
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON MALAWI'S NEW CABINET
TAGS: PINT, MI
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f822d76b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009